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Message Text

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42
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 SSO-00

INRE-00 EURE-00 /047 W
---------- 109698
O 121403Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7175

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STADIS//////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GW
SUBJECT: SPECIALTY STEEL ESCAPE CLAUSE PROCEEDING

1. DURING SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT TO MAINZ ON MARCH 11, FRG ECONOMICS MINISTER HANDED HIM A LETTER EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE ITC RECOMMENDATIONS ON SPECIALTY STEEL. EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THIS LETTER FOLLOWS:

2. THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION HAS ON THE BASIS OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974, PROPOSED TO THE PRESIDENT THE IMPOSITION OF IMPORT QUOTAS FOR REFINED STEEL. THE RESTRICTIVE NATURE OF THIS PROPOSAL CAUSES CONSIDERABLE CONCERN -- CERTAINLY NOT ONLY TO ME. IF THE RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE FOLLOWED, THE GREAT DANGER EXISTS THAT OUR COMMON EFFORTS TOWARDS OVERCOMING THE RECESSION IN THE WORLD ECONOMY WOULD BE SEVERELY DAMAGED AND THE FIRST PAINFULLY ATTAINED SUCCESS OF OUR POLICY OF ECONOMIC REVIVAL WOULD AGAIN BE PLACED IN QUESTION. BEYOND THAT THE TRADE POLICY CLIMATE OF THE WORLD WOULD DETERIORATE SUBSTANTIALLY. FOR THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT IN THE EVENT OF PROTECTIONIST MEASURES ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD ALSO
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IMMEDIATELY START RESTRICTING THEIR IMPORTS WHENEVER

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THEY HAVE INTERNAL ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. TO THIS EXTENT, THE DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT, WHICH HE WILL HAVE TO MAKE IN A FEW DAYS CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION, WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANCE FAR EXCEEDING THE NATIONAL AMERICAN SPHERE. IT WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF AN INTERNATIONAL SIGNAL.

3. I AM CONVINCED THAT THE PRESIDENT, IN MAKING HIS DECISION, WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE AGREEMENT WHICH STATE AND GOVERNMENT CHIEFS REACHED ON NOVEMBER 17, 1975 IN THE DECLARATION OF RAMBOUILLET CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICY TO BE PURSUED IN COMMON. ONE OF THE BASIC POINTS WAS THAT THE PRINCIPAL TRADING COUNTRIES SHOULD RENOUNCE THE APPLICATION OF MEASURES DESIGNED TO SOLVE INTERNAL NATIONAL PROBLEMS AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER COUNTRIES, WHICH WOULD ENTAIL DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL FIELDS.

4. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO PRESENT OUR CONCERNS TO THE PRESIDENT AND IN DOING THIS TO USE YOUR FULL INFLUENCE SO THAT HE WILL MAKE A DECISION WHICH WILL DO JUSTICE TO THE GREAT WORLD ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR COUNTRY.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STEEL, IMPORT QUOTAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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